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7
8 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
9 NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

10
11 ALBERT WRIGHT JR. and MARVA JOE
GREEN WRIGHT,

(ASBESTOS)
USDC No. C-07-5403 EDL

12
13 **DEFENDANT FOSTER WHEELER LLC'S**
ANSWER TO COMPLAINT FOR
PERSONAL INJURY – ASBESTOS

14 Plaintiffs,

15 vs.

16 FOSTER WHEELER LLC, et al.,

San Francisco Superior Court
Case No. 274382

17 Defendants.

18
19 COMES NOW Defendant **FOSTER WHEELER LLC** (hereinafter “Defendant” or
20 “FOSTER WHEELER”) and answers Plaintiffs’ Complaint for Personal Injury – Asbestos
21 (hereinafter the “Complaint”) on file herein along with the Removal Application and Order from
22 Superior Court of San Francisco, which removal was filed on October 24, 2007 and recorded on
23 October 24, 2007.

24 **RESERVATION OF RIGHT TO TRIAL BY JURY**

25 FOSTER WHEELER reserves the right to a trial by jury.

26 **I. ADMISSIONS AND DENIALS**

27 Except as noted answering defendant Foster Wheeler LLC (FWC) answers the allegations
28 in plaintiff’s complaint as set forth below as to FWC only and such responses are not intended as a

1 response to the allegations made as they may apply to other defendants named in this action.

2 1. Answering Paragraph 1, defendant alleges that it does not have sufficient information or
3 belief on the subject to enable it to answer the, or any of the, allegations in the paragraph, and
4 basing its denial on that ground, denies each and every, all and singular, generally and specifically,
5 and each and every part thereof.

6 2. Answering Paragraph 2, defendant denies each and every, all and singular, generally and
7 specifically, and each and every part thereof.

8 3. Answering that portion of Paragraph 3, as to Foster Wheeler LLC (FWC), admits that
9 FWC is a corporation under the laws of another state and is authorized and has done business in
10 the State of California. As to the remaining allegations defendant alleges that it does not have
11 sufficient information or belief on the subject to enable it to answer and basing its denial on that
12 ground, denies each and every, all and singular, generally and specifically, and each and every part
13 thereof.

14 4. Answering Paragraphs 4 - 8 defendant denies each and every, all and singular, generally
15 and specifically, and each and every part thereof.

16 5. Answering Paragraph 9, defendant alleges that it does not have sufficient information or
17 belief on the subject to enable it to answer the, or any of the, allegations in the paragraph, and
18 basing its denial on that ground, denies each and every, all and singular, generally and specifically,
19 and each and every part thereof.

20 6. Answering Paragraphs 9a (a)-(k) defendant denies each and every, all and singular,
21 generally and specifically, and each and every part thereof.

22 7. Answering Paragraphs 10 defendant denies each and every, all and singular, generally and
23 specifically, and each and every part thereof.

24 8. Answering that portion of Paragraph 11, in as much as asbestos can cause progressive lung
25 disease and cancer defendant admits such allegations. To the extent that this paragraph alleges
26 that inhalation of asbestos causes "other serious diseases" defendant alleges that it does not have
27 sufficient information or belief on the subject to enable it to answer such allegations in the
28 paragraph, and basing its denial on that ground, denies each and every, all and singular, generally

1 and specifically, and each and every part thereof.

2 9. Answering Paragraph 12, defendant alleges that it does not have sufficient information or
3 belief on the subject to enable it to answer the, or any of the, allegations in the paragraph, and
4 basing its denial on that ground, denies each and every, all and singular, generally and specifically,
5 and each and every part thereof.

6 10. Answering Paragraphs 13 - 18 defendant denies each and every, all and singular, generally
7 and specifically, and each and every part thereof.

8 11. Answering Paragraph 19 defendant incorporates herein by reference its response to each of
9 the paragraphs incorporated by reference in plaintiff.

10 12. Answering Paragraphs 20 - 30 defendant denies each and every, all and singular, generally
11 and specifically, and each and every part thereof.

12 13. Answering Paragraph 31 defendant incorporates herein by reference its response to each of
13 the paragraphs incorporated by reference in plaintiff.

14 14. Answering Paragraphs 32 - 36 defendant denies each and every, all and singular, generally
15 and specifically, and each and every part thereof.

16 15. Answering Paragraph 37, defendant alleges that it does not have sufficient information or
17 belief on the subject to enable it to answer the, or any of the, allegations in the paragraph, and
18 basing its denial on that ground, denies each and every, all and singular, generally and specifically,
19 and each and every part thereof.

20 16. Answering Paragraph 38 defendant denies each and every, all and singular, generally and
21 specifically, and each and every part thereof.

22 17. Answering that portion of Paragraph 39, in as much as asbestos can cause progressive lung
23 disease and cancer defendant admits such allegations. To the extent that this paragraph alleges
24 that inhalation of asbestos causes "other serious diseases" defendant alleges that it does not have
25 sufficient information or belief on the subject to enable it to answer such allegations in the
26 paragraph, and basing its denial on that ground, denies each and every, all and singular, generally
27 and specifically, and each and every part thereof.

28 18. Answering Paragraph 40, defendant alleges that it does not have sufficient information or

1 belief on the subject to enable it to answer the, or any of the, allegations in the paragraph, and
 2 basing its denial on that ground, denies each and every, all and singular, generally and specifically,
 3 and each and every part thereof.

4 19. Answering Paragraphs 41 - 51 defendant denies each and every, all and singular, generally
 5 and specifically, and each and every part thereof.

6 20. Answering Paragraph 52 defendant incorporates herein by reference its response to each of
 7 the paragraphs incorporated by reference in plaintiff.

8 21. Answering Paragraphs 53 - 58 defendant denies each and every, all and singular, generally
 9 and specifically, and each and every part thereof.

10 22. Answering Paragraph 59 defendant incorporates herein by reference its response to each of
 11 the paragraphs incorporated by reference in plaintiff.

12 23. Answering Paragraphs 60 - 84 defendant denies each and every, all and singular, generally
 13 and specifically, and each and every part thereof.

14 24. Answering Paragraph 85 defendant incorporates herein by reference its response to each of
 15 the paragraphs incorporated by reference in plaintiff.

16 25. Answering Paragraphs 86 -88, defendant alleges that it does not have sufficient information
 17 or belief on the subject to enable it to answer the, or any of the, allegations in the paragraph, and
 18 basing its denial on that ground, denies each and every, all and singular, generally and specifically,
 19 and each and every part thereof.

20 26. Answering Paragraph 89 defendant denies each and every, all and singular, generally and
 21 specifically, and each and every part thereof.

22 27. Further answering Paragraphs 86 -88, defendant alleges that it does not have sufficient
 23 information or belief on the subject to enable it to answer the allegations that plaintiffs have
 24 suffered any damages and, and basing its denial on that ground, denies each and every, all and
 25 singular, generally and specifically, and each and every part thereof.

26 II. AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

27 FIRST DEFENSE

28 The complaint fails to state a claim against Defendant upon which relief can be granted.

1 **SECOND DEFENSE**

2 Defendant is without knowledge or information sufficient to form belief as to the truth of
3 the allegations contained in Plaintiffs' complaint and denies each and every all, all and singular,
4 generally and specifically, the allegations of the whole of Plaintiffs' Complaint beginning with the
5 Plaintiffs' General Allegations on page 3, line 9 through page 34, line 18, including Plaintiffs'
6 prayer for compensatory and punitive damages.

7 **AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES**

8 **FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

9 **Contravention of Defendant's Constitutional Rights to Due Process of Law**

10 The Complaint and each cause of action thereof, which is admittedly based upon a lack of
11 identification of the manufacturer of, and contractor using or distributing the alleged injury-
12 causing product, fails to state facts sufficient to constitute a cause of action in that plaintiffs have
13 asserted a claim for relief which, if granted, would contravene defendant's constitutional rights to
14 substantive and procedural due process of law as preserved for defendant by the Fourteenth
15 Amendment of the United States Constitution and by Article I, Section 7, of the Constitution of
16 the State of California.

17 **SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

18 **Denial of Defendant's Constitutional Rights to Equal Protection of the Laws**

19 The Complaint, and each cause of action thereof, fails to state facts sufficient to constitute
20 a cause of action in that plaintiffs have asserted claims for relief which, if granted, would
21 constitute a denial by this Court of defendant's constitutional right to equal protection of the laws
22 as preserved by the Fourteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution.

23 **THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

24 **Unconstitutional Taking of Private Property for Public Use**

25 **Without Just Compensation**

26 The Complaint, and each cause of action thereof, which is admittedly based upon a lack of
27 identification of the manufacturer, and contractor using or distributing the alleged injury-causing
28 product, fails to state facts sufficient to constitute a cause of action in that plaintiffs have asserted

1 claims for relief which, if granted, would constitute the taking of private property for public use
 2 without just compensation in contravention of the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United
 3 States Constitution.

4 **FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

5 **Comparative Fault**

6 This answering Defendant alleges that the damages, if any, complained of by Plaintiffs,
 7 were proximately caused by the negligence, fault, breach of contract and/or strict liability of
 8 Plaintiffs or other defendants, firms, persons, corporations, unions, employers and entities other
 9 than FOSTER WHEELER, and that said negligence, fault, breach of contract and/or strict liability
 10 comparatively reduces the percentage of any negligence, fault, breach of contract or strict liability
 11 for which FOSTER WHEELER is legally responsible, if any be found, which liability this
 12 defendant expressly denies. Further, this answering Defendant alleges that Plaintiffs did not
 13 exercise ordinary care, caution or prudence to avoid the incidents complained of herein, and said
 14 incidents and the injuries and damages, if any, sustained by Plaintiffs, were directly and
 15 proximately caused and contributed to by the carelessness and negligence of said Plaintiffs.

16 **FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

17 **Contributory Negligence**

18 This answering Defendant alleges that Plaintiffs did not exercise ordinary care, caution or
 19 prudence to avoid the incidents complained of herein, and said incidents and the injuries and
 20 damages, if any, sustained by Plaintiffs, were directly and proximately caused and contributed to
 21 by the carelessness and negligence of said Plaintiffs.

22 **SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

23 **Uncertainty**

24 This answering Defendant alleges that Plaintiffs' Complaint and all purported causes of
 25 action therein are vague, ambiguous and uncertain, and fail to state a cause of action on any theory.

26 **SEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

27 **Laches**

28 This answering Defendant alleges that Plaintiffs unreasonably delayed in bringing this

1 action and that such delay substantially prejudiced defendant, and that this action is therefore
2 barred by the Doctrine of Laches.

3 **EIGHTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

4 **Statute of Limitations**

5 This answering Defendant alleges that Plaintiffs' Complaint and the purported causes of
6 action therein are barred by all statutes of limitation, including, but not limited to, the provisions of
7 California Code of Civil Procedure §§ 338, 338.1, 339(1), 340, 340(3) and 340.2, 343, 352, 366.1,
8 366.2 and California Commercial Code § 2725. Plaintiffs' claims are further barred by the statute
9 of limitations of states other than California pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure § 361.

10 **NINTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

11 **Failure to Mitigate**

12 This answering Defendant alleges that Plaintiffs failed to mitigate damages which plaintiffs
13 contends they suffered, and Plaintiffs are therefore barred from any recovery whatsoever, or
14 alternatively, any damages found must be reduced in proportion to such failure to mitigate.

15 **TENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

16 **Estoppel**

17 This answering Defendant alleges that as a result of the acts, conduct and/or omissions of
18 Plaintiffs and their agents, or any of them, and each cause of action presented therein, is barred
19 under the Doctrine of Estoppel.

20 **ELEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

21 **Waiver**

22 This answering Defendant alleges that Plaintiffs, by their acts, conduct and omissions, have
23 waived the claims alleged in their Complaint and in each purported cause of action alleged therein.

24 **TWELFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

25 **Acquiescence**

26 Plaintiffs acknowledged, ratified, consented to, and acquiesced in the alleged acts or
27 omissions, if any, of this answering Defendant, thus barring Plaintiffs from any relief as prayed for
28 herein.

THIRTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Notice of Dangers

Plaintiffs were advised, informed, and warned of any potential hazards and/or dangers, if there were any, associated with the normal or foreseeable use, handling, storage and in place asbestos of the products, substances, equipment and at premises in which exposure is claimed as is described in the Complaint and are therefore barred from any relief prayed for.

FOURTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Compliance with Statutes

This answering Defendant alleges that all of its conduct and activities as alleged in the Plaintiffs' Complaint conformed to statutes, government regulations, and industry standards based upon the state of knowledge existing at all relevant times.

FIFTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Compliance with Specifications

This answering Defendant alleges that the asbestos products or asbestos used or in place at any premises, if any, for which FOSTER WHEELER had any legal responsibility, were manufactured, packaged, distributed or sold in accordance with contract specifications imposed by its co-defendants, by the U.S. Government, by the State of California, by Plaintiff's ALBERT WRIGHT JR.'S employers, or by third parties yet to be identified.

SIXTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

No Conspiracy

This answering Defendant alleges that FOSTER WHEELER has no liability for the acts, omissions or otherwise of any other defendant or entity because FOSTER WHEELER did not become legally responsible for the acts of any such defendant, nor entity, by any communication, alleged, implied, or actual, nor act, action, or activity, and never was, nor is, a conspirator nor co-conspirator with any other defendant or entity.

SEVENTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

State-of-the-Art

This answering Defendant alleges that all of its activities, products, materials and its

premises at issue here at all times were conducted, used, produced, marketed, and operated in conformity with the existing scientific, medical industrial hygiene and consumer knowledge, art and practice and state-of-the-art.

EIGHTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

No Foreseeable Risk to Plaintiff

The state of the medical, scientific, and industrial knowledge and practice was at all material times such that defendant neither breached any alleged duty owed Plaintiffs, nor knew, nor could have known, that its activities, materials, products, activities or premises presented a foreseeable risk of harm to Plaintiff ALBERT WRIGHT JR. in the normal and expected course of such activities and use of such materials and products.

NINETEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

No Right to Control

This answering Defendant alleges that any loss, injury, or damage incurred by Plaintiffs was proximately and legally caused by the negligent or willful acts or omissions of parties which FOSTER WHEELER neither controlled, nor had the right to control, and was not proximately caused by any acts, omissions, or other conduct of FOSTER WHEELER.

TWENTIETH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Statutes of Limitations

This answering Defendant alleges the causes of action, if any, attempted to be stated and set forth in the Complaint, are barred by the provisions of the Code of Civil Procedure of the State of California and/or other statutes of the State of California, including without limitation C.C.P. § 338(d).

TWENTY-FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Misuse and Improper Use of Products

This answering Defendant alleges that if Plaintiff ALBERT WRIGHT JR. allegedly suffered injuries attributable to the disturbance or use of any product for which FOSTER WHEELER had any legal responsibility, which allegations are expressly herein denied, the injuries were solely caused by, and attributable to the unreasonable, unforeseeable, and inappropriate

1 purpose and improper use and abuse which was made of said product by persons or entities other
2 than FOSTER WHEELER.

3 **TWENTY-SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

4 **Due Care and Diligence**

5 This answering Defendant alleges that FOSTER WHEELER exercised due care and
6 diligence in all of the matters alleged in the Complaint, and no act or omission by FOSTER
7 WHEELER was the proximate cause of any damage, injury or loss to Plaintiffs.

8 **TWENTY-THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

9 **Alteration and Misuse of Product**

10 This answering Defendant alleges that an insubstantial amount, if any at all, of the products
11 containing asbestos distributed, used, supplied by Defendant or used or in place at any premises
12 owned or controlled by Defendant, were not disturbed or used in the presence of Plaintiff
13 ALBERT WRIGHT JR. and not supplied to Plaintiff ALBERT WRIGHT JR., and if so, were
14 substantially altered by others and/or used in a manner inconsistent with the labeled directions.

15 **TWENTY-FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

16 **Equal or Greater Knowledge of Hazards**

17 This answering Defendant alleges that any and all products containing asbestos used,
18 distributed or supplied by Defendant were distributed or supplied to, or for, persons or entities who
19 had knowledge with respect to the hazards, if any, resulting from exposure to products containing
20 asbestos, which knowledge is equal to or greater than the knowledge of FOSTER WHEELER.

21 **TWENTY-FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

22 **Other Parties' Liability and Negligence**

23 This answering Defendant alleges that if there was any negligence or any other form of
24 liability on the part of any of the parties named herein, it was the sole and exclusive negligence
25 and liability of the other persons or entities and not of FOSTER WHEELER.

26 **TWENTY-SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

27 **Apportionment and Offset**

28 This answering Defendant is informed and believes and thereon alleges that Plaintiffs' acts

1 and omissions, including Plaintiffs' agents, servants, and employees acting within the course and
 2 scope of their employment, and others, contributed to the alleged damages, injury, or loss, if any,
 3 sustained by Plaintiff ALBERT WRIGHT JR. Defendant requests that the Court apply the
 4 principles of apportionment and offset so as to permit the Court or jury to apportion liability
 5 according to fault and to grant Defendant a corresponding offset against any damages awarded to
 6 Plaintiffs.

7 **TWENTY-SEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

8 **Contribution/Equitable Indemnity**

9 This answering Defendant alleges, in the event it is held liable to Plaintiffs, any such
 10 liability is expressly herein denied, and any other co-defendants are likewise held liable, FOSTER
 11 WHEELER is entitled to a percentage contribution of the total liability from said co-defendants in
 12 accordance with the principles of equitable indemnity and comparative contribution.

13 **TWENTY-EIGHTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

14 **Assumption of Risk by Plaintiff's Employer(s)**

15 This answering Defendant alleges that the Complaint and each cause of action alleged
 16 therein are barred on the grounds that Plaintiff ALBERT WRIGHT JR.'S employer or employers
 17 knowingly entered into and engaged in the operations, acts and conduct alleged in the Complaint,
 18 and voluntarily and knowingly assumed all of the risks incident to said operations, acts and
 19 conduct at the time and place mentioned in the Complaint.

20 **TWENTY-NINTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

21 **Assumption of Risk**

22 This answering Defendant alleges Plaintiff ALBERT WRIGHT JR. assumed the risk of the
 23 matters referred to in his Complaint and that Plaintiff knew and appreciated the nature of the risk
 24 and that the Plaintiff voluntarily accepted this risk.

25 **THIRTIETH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

26 **No Market Share**

27 This answering Defendant alleges that FOSTER WHEELER did not have an appreciable
 28 share of the market for the asbestos-containing products which allegedly caused Plaintiff ALBERT

1 WRIGHT JR.'S injuries, which occurrence FOSTER WHEELER expressly denies. Accordingly,
 2 FOSTER WHEELER may not be held liable to Plaintiffs based on its alleged share of the
 3 applicable product market.

4 **THIRTY-FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

5 **Plaintiffs Fail to Join a Substantial Market Share**

6 The Complaint, and each cause of action thereof, fails to state facts sufficient to constitute
 7 a cause of action against this answering Defendant, in that Defendant has failed to join a
 8 substantial market share of the producers or products to which Plaintiffs were allegedly exposed.

9 **THIRTY-SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

10 **Insufficient Facts to Show Substantial Market Share of this Defendant**

11 To the extent the Complaint asserts Defendant's alleged "alternative," "market share," or
 12 "enterprise" liability, the Complaint fails to state facts sufficient to constitute a cause of action
 13 against this Defendant.

14 **THIRTY-THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

15 **Independent, Intervening or Superseding Cause**

16 This answering Defendant alleges that if Plaintiffs suffered any injuries attributable to the
 17 use of any product containing asbestos which was used, distributed or sold by defendant, which
 18 allegations are expressly denied herein, the injuries were solely caused by an unforeseeable,
 19 independent intervening and/or superseding event beyond the control and unrelated to any conduct
 20 of defendant. Defendant's actions, if any, were superseded by the negligence and wrongful
 21 conduct of others.

22 **THIRTY-FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

23 **Not a Substantial Factor**

24 This answering Defendant alleges that the Complaint and each cause of action therein
 25 presented are barred on the grounds that the products, conduct, materials or premises of defendant
 26 as referred to in Plaintiffs' Complaint, if any, were not a substantial factor in bringing about the
 27 injuries and damages complained of by Plaintiff ALBERT WRIGHT JR. and did not increase the
 28 risk that Plaintiff would suffer the injuries and damages complained of.

THIRTY-FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**Insufficient Exposure**

Any exposure of Plaintiff ALBERT WRIGHT JR. to Defendant's activities, products or exposure to asbestos or asbestos-containing products at FOSTER WHEELER's premises was so minimal as to be insufficient to establish by a reasonable degree of probability that any such product caused any alleged injury, damage, or loss to plaintiffs.

THIRTY-SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**No Successor Liability**

This answering Defendant alleges that FOSTER WHEELER has no liability for the acts, omissions or otherwise of any other defendant or any other entity because FOSTER WHEELER did not become legally responsible for the acts of any such defendant or entity given the facts and circumstances of the pertinent transactions and never was, nor is, a successor-in-interest, a successor-in-liability or an alternate entity for any other user, manufacturer, supplier, seller, distributor or premises holder relating to asbestos or asbestos-containing products.

THIRTY-SEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**Lack of Privity**

This answering Defendant alleges that Plaintiffs have failed to state a cause of action in that the Complaint fails to allege that there was privity between defendant on the one hand, and plaintiffs on the other, and furthermore, such privity did not exist between Defendant on the one hand, and Plaintiffs on the other.

THIRTY-EIGHTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**Secondary Assumption of Risk**

This answering Defendant alleges that any and all products containing asbestos used, distributed or supplied by Defendant were used, distributed or supplied to, or for, persons or entities who had knowledge with respect to the hazards, if any, resulting from exposure to products containing asbestos, which is equal to or greater than, the knowledge of FOSTER WHEELER, *i.e.* FOSTER WHEELER's liability should be reduced in proportion to the knowledge of Plaintiff.

THIRTY-NINTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**Civil Code Section 1431.2**

This answering Defendant alleges that the provisions of California Civil Code § 1431.2 (commonly referred to as "Proposition 51") are applicable to Plaintiffs' Complaint and to each cause of action therein.

FORTIETH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**Workers' Compensation Exclusive Remedy**

This answering Defendant alleges that the Complaint is barred by the exclusivity provisions of the California Workers' Compensation laws, including, but not limited to, California Labor Code §§ 3600, *et seq.*

FORTY-FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**Offset for Workers' Compensation Benefits**

This answering Defendant alleges that to the extent Plaintiffs herein recovered, or in the future may recover, any monies in connection with any claim for workers' compensation benefits, any amounts recovered in this action are subject to a claim by Defendant for a credit or offset.

FORTY-SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**Express Contractual Indemnity**

This answering Defendant alleges that if Plaintiffs claim exposure to asbestos or asbestos-containing products at a FOSTER WHEELER premises, FOSTER WHEELER contracted with plaintiff ALBERT WRIGHT JR. and/or plaintiff's employer(s) for them to fully assume all responsibility for insuring plaintiff's safety, to guarantee that no hazardous condition existed, and/or to warn and protect against any such conditions, during the performance of plaintiff's work, and, further, to fully indemnify FOSTER WHEELER, and to hold FOSTER WHEELER harmless, for all responsibility and liability arising out of said work, and/or any injuries allegedly incurred by plaintiff as a result of any of said work. FOSTER WHEELER reserves all rights to assert these provisions of contractual indemnity.

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FORTY-THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Consent

This answering Defendant alleges that at all times mentioned, Plaintiffs consented to the alleged acts or omissions of FOSTER WHEELER.

FORTY-FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Unusual Susceptibility

This answering defendant alleges that each of Plaintiffs' injuries and damages, if any, were proximately caused or contributed to by Plaintiff ALBERT WRIGHT JR.'S unforeseeable idiosyncratic condition, unusual susceptibility, or hypersensitivity reactions for which FOSTER WHEELER is not liable.

FORTY-FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Good Faith

This answering Defendant alleges that Plaintiffs' claim for punitive damages is barred because FOSTER WHEELER at all times and places mentioned in the Complaint acted reasonably and in good faith, and without malice or oppression towards the Plaintiff ALBERT WRIGHT JR.

FORTY-SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Sophisticated User

This answering Defendant alleges that FOSTER WHEELER was under no legal duty to warn Plaintiff ALBERT WRIGHT JR. of the hazard associated with the use of products containing asbestos or their existence at any premises owned, operated, controlled or otherwise by FOSTER WHEELER. The purchasers of said products, the Plaintiff ALBERT WRIGHT JR., plaintiff's employers, his unions or certain third parties yet to be identified, were knowledgeable and sophisticated users and were in a better position to warn Plaintiff ALBERT WRIGHT JR. of the risk associated with using products containing asbestos and, assuming a warning was required, it was the failure of such persons or entities to give such a warning that was the proximate and superseding cause of Plaintiffs' damages, if any.

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FORTY-SEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**Work Hazard Precautions**

This answering Defendant alleges that Plaintiff ALBERT WRIGHT JR.'S employer(s) was/were advised and warned of any potential hazards and/or dangers associated with the normal and foreseeable conduct with, or storage and disposal of the products referred to in the Complaint, in a manner which was adequate notice to an industrial user of such product to enable it to inform its employees to take appropriate work precautions to prevent injurious exposure.

FORTY-EIGHTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**Failure to Join Indispensable Parties**

Plaintiffs herein have failed to join indispensable parties (California Code of Civil Procedure, § 389) and the Complaint is thereby defective, and Plaintiffs are thereby precluded from any recovery whatsoever as prayed for herein.

FORTY-NINTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**Plaintiff is not a Real Party in Interest**

Plaintiffs, and each of them, herein lack legal capacity to sue and are not a real party in interest and are thereby precluded from any recovery whatsoever as prayed for herein.

FIFTIETH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**Fraud and Conspiracy are Not Separate Forms of Damages**

Fraud and conspiracy do not constitute a separate and distinct form of damages from general damages, and, therefore, the prayer for fraud and conspiracy in addition to general damages does not sufficiently support or constitute a separate claim for damages against this answering Defendant, but is simply cumulative and included in general damages.

FIFTY-FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**Failure to Allege with Particularity**

This answering Defendant alleges that Plaintiffs' Complaint fails to set out their claims with sufficient particularity to permit defendant to raise all appropriate defenses and, thus, Defendant reserves the right to add additional defenses as the factual basis for these claims becomes known.

FIFTY-SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Negligent Hiring Claim Invalid

An employee of an independent contractor may not pursue a claim for negligent hiring against a hirer of the independent contractor. *See Camargo v. Tjaarda Dairy*, 25 Cal. 4th 1235 (2001).

FIFTY-THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Right to Amend

This Defendant will assert any and all additional defenses that arise during the course of this litigation and reserves the right to amend its answer to assert such defenses.

FIFTY-FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Alternate Unknown Cause

The alleged injuries and damages, if any, may be in whole or in part due to injury, disease or cause other than as alleged.

FIFTY-FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

No Concert of Action

There is no concert of action between Defendant and any of the other named defendants. Defendants are not joint tortfeasors and accordingly, Defendant may not be held jointly and severally liable with the other named defendants.

PRAYER

WHEREFORE, this answering Defendant prays for judgment as follows:

1. That Plaintiffs take nothing by reason of their Complaint or any claims stated therein;
2. That Plaintiffs' Complaint and each cause of action contained therein be dismissed with prejudice against FOSTER WHEELER;
3. For costs of suit; and

1 4. For such other and further relief as the Court deems just and appropriate in the
2 circumstances.

3
4 Dated: October 29, 2007

BRYDON, HUGO & PARKER

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6 By: 

7 Edward R. Hugo
8 James C. Parker
9 Gregory S. Rosse
10 Attorneys for Defendant
11 FOSTER WHEELER LLC
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